



PC10943AJTJ

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Michael J. Davies, et al.

SERIAL NO.: 09/927,344

FILED: August 10, 2001

FOR: Treatment of Wounds

Assistant Commissioner For Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

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Sir:

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

This is in response to the Office Action dated October 8, 2002, the term for response having been extended three (3) months by including the appropriate fee and petition herewith.

In response to the Office Action, Applicants hereby elect the invention of Group I, Claims 1, 3-8, drawn to a method of treating wounds comprising an effective amount of cGMP PDE5 inhibitor.

The Restriction Requirement is traversed on the basis that it is excessive. MPEP 803 states that if the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions. It is respectfully submitted, per MPEP 803, that it would not be a serious burden on the Examiner to consolidate at least some of the aforementioned Restriction Groups, as opposed to placing the burden and expense of filing and prosecuting four different applications on Applicants.

Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider the restriction requirement. Even if the Examiner chooses not to withdraw the requirement *in toto*, it is requested that at least some of the groups be consolidated. Applicants will defer amending the claims pending the Examiner's response.

Date: FEBRUARY 3, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

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